Gunston Classics

DOCTOR RABBIT
and
KI-YI COYO

By Thomas C. Hinkle

DOCTOR RABBIT AND KI-YI COYOTE

By

THOMAS CLARK HINKLE

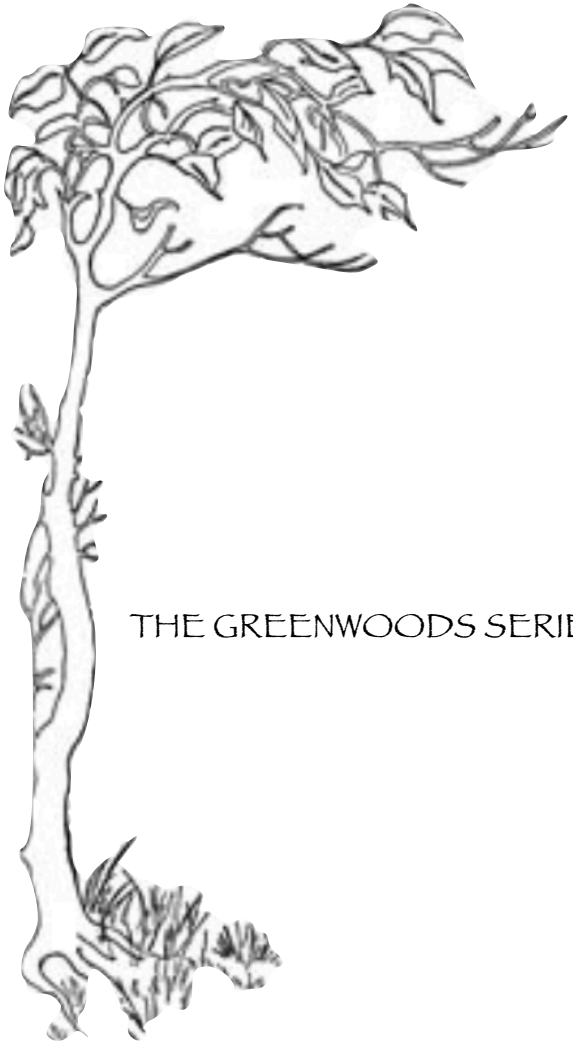
Milo Winter - Illustrator

1918

© Copyright 2021
The Gunston Trust.
All rights reserved.
No part of this book may be
reproduced in any form
or by any electronic or mechanical
means without written permission
of the author. All text, illustrations
and design, as presented, are the
exclusive property of
The Gunston Trust.
PO Box 5905
Baltimore, Maryland 21282-5905
USA

Gunston & The Book Bunnies

The Gunston Trust



THE GREENWOODS SERIES

THE CONTENTS

Doctor Rabbit Gets a Call
In Fear of Ki-Yi Coyote
The Holes Under the Trees
Doctoring Billy Rabbit
Ki-Yi Coyote Chases Doctor Rabbit ....
Doctor Rabbit Gets a Scare
Doctor Rabbit and Jack Rabbit Escape
Ki-Yi Coyote Watches for Doctor Rabbit
Doctor Rabbit Calls on Chatty Squirrel .
Fooling Ki-Yi Coyote
Ki-Yi Coyote Chases Doctor Rabbit ....
Doctor Rabbit Has a Scheme
The Little Creatures of the Woods Are Excited
Doctor Rabbit Talks with Big Dog Yappy
Doctor Rabbit Talks with Jack Rabbit
Old Uncle Owl Gives Good Advice ....
Yappy Chases Ki-Yi Coyote
Ki-Yi Coyote's Strange Hiding Place
Catching Ki-Yi Coyote
The Little Creatures of the Woods Are Happy Again

ILLUSTRATIONS

FACING PAGE "Suppose Mr. Coyote should get after me!"

1 "Good day, Mr. Coyote, I have to be going!"

"Sakes alive!"- Mr. Squirrel exclaimed. "How did you find out?" . . .

Dr. Rabbitabout something was certainly tickled

Mr. Jack Rabbit began to dance a little jig of joy

He ran straight for Mr. Farmer's corn-crib

1

M-W
"Suppose Mr. Coyote
should get after me!"

DOCTOR RABBIT and KI-YI COYOTE

DOCTOR RABBIT GETS A CALL

Doctor Rabbit lived in the very biggest tree in the Big Green Woods. He looked after all the other rabbits when they were ill and he doctored quite a number of the other little creatures of the Big Woods too, when they did not feel well. He was so jolly and cheerful, always

trying so hard to help others, that he had a great many friends.

Doctor Rabbit said when he came to live in the Big Green Woods he didn't have the least idea that he would have so many adventures. "But then," he said one day as he curled his mustache, "it's a good thing I have so many adventures. They make me take plenty of exercise, and that's fine for my constitution." What he meant by this was that exercise kept him in good health.

I said Doctor Rabbit looked after some of the other creatures when they were ill. But there were some he did not dare go near. Well, I should say not! For instance, there was Ki-yi Coyote, who lived out on the Wide Prairie just outside the Big Green Woods. No, Doctor Rabbit never went near Ki-yi Coyote. And if old Ki-yi had been ill and if all his relatives had been so ill they never again would be able to get out of bed, Doctor Rabbit would not have cared at all. No indeed, he would have been glad of it, because Ki-yi Coyote and all his relatives, who lived far away, were ready any time to gobble up Doctor Rabbit.

Now, one fine morning in spring Doctor Rabbit began to have trouble with Ki-yi. On this morning Doctor Rabbit arose from his bed very early and prepared a fine breakfast for himself. He cooked some nice new potatoes and green peas he had found in Farmer Roe's garden. After he had eaten his breakfast he had to wash the dishes because there wasn't anybody else to do it. You see, he lived all alone in the big tree. He didn't like to wash dishes but he did it anyway. Then he put on his second best pair of glasses and went out in his front yard to get some fresh air and see if his neighbor, Blue Jay, was up.

There was a very good reason why he wanted to know whether Blue Jay was up. Just now Doctor Rabbit was greatly troubled. Now, what do you suppose he was troubled about? Why, word had
been brought the night before that Billy Rabbit, the small son of Jack and Mrs. Jack Rabbit, who lived far out on the Wide Prairie, was ill. Blue Jay had come flying in to tell the news. He said Mrs. Jack Rabbit told him if Billy was not better by

morning Doctor Rabbit would simply have to cross the Wide Prairie even if it was dangerous.

Now Doctor Rabbit was a cottontail rabbit, so of course he couldn't run faster than any other cottontail. He could not run anything like so fast nor so far as could Jack Rabbit. So Doctor Rabbit was greatly troubled this morning. He could not sit still, but kept walking slowly round and round in his front yard. As he walked round and round he said to himself, "I've never been so far out on the open Wide Prairie as Jack Rabbit's. Suppose I should go away outthere to see little sick Billy and Ki-yi Coyote should get after me! Goodness gracious! He would be almost sure to catch me." Doctor Rabbit trembled a little and looked all around even though he was right in his own dooryard. He very much hoped he would not be called to go so far out on the Wide Prairie.

But what he feared happened. Very soon Jack Rabbit came running fast, and flying right along with him came Blue Jay. Busy Blue Jay generally knows everything that is happening.

Jack Rabbit walked straight up to Doctor Rabbit and, bowing politely, said:

"I'm so glad I found you at home, Doctor. My son Billy is no better. In fact, he is much worse, and we are troubled about him. Can't you run over and see him right now?"

For a moment Doctor Rabbit did not know what to say. He feared Ki-yi Coyote, but at the same time he hated to think of Billy Rabbit's being so ill with no one there to make him well. He thought and thought. Finally he said:

"Of course, Friend Jack Rabbit, I shall try to get over to see your son. But as you know, it's very dangerous for me because I can't run more than half as fast as you can. Now what could we do if old Ki-yi Coyote should happen to get after us?"

Friend Jack Rabbit scratched his head and said he hadn't thought about that. It was a very serious matter, too. For suppose Ki-yi Coyote should gobble up good Doctor Rabbit! Then what would the woods creatures do? They must certainly plan some means of going in safety.

"Say!" said Doctor Rabbit suddenly, "I've thought of a plan. I'll just ride on your back and we'll get there in no time!"

But Friend Jack Rabbit scratched his head again. He wasn't sure he could carry Doctor Rabbit, because the Doctor was very portly—that is, he was pretty fat and heavy. But anyway he agreed to try the plan. So Doctor Rabbit hurried into his house and put on his best pair of gold glasses and his best clothes. He always liked, he said, to look his best before his patients. Then with his medicine case in hand he sprang upon Jack Rabbit's back.

"See how fast you can run to the edge of the Big Green Woods. That will be a good test!" shouted Doctor Rabbit, and Jack Rabbit answered, "Very well. If you're ready I'll try!"

IN FEAR OF KI-YI COYOTE

Just as Jack Rabbit started for the edge of the Big Green Woods with Doctor Rabbit on his back, Blue Jay flew along ahead of them. Then came Robin-the-Red, whistling Red Bird and others. They had never seen Doctor Rabbit ride before and they all laughed and shouted at the funny appearance he made.

Away went Jack Rabbit as fast as he could for the edge of the Woods.

"This is fine!" cried Doctor Rabbit. "Keep it up, Jack Rabbit, and we'll be at your house in a jiffy!"

"Ha! ha! ha!" laughed Blue Jay and the others as they flew along near the ground watching them. "Look at Doctor Rabbit in his new

automobile! Look at him!" they shouted. Then they all laughed again. As they raced along Stubby Woodchuck came out of his house to see the funny sight, and so did Cheepy Chipmunk and Chatty Red Squirrel and Frisky Gray Squirrel and many others.

They all wondered if Jack Rabbit could hold out carrying Doctor Rabbit so far. They thought he must be mighty strong if he could. But when he reached the edge of the woods he stopped and said he would have to give it up. He lay down and panted for a while. By and by he said he hadn't the least idea that Doctor Rabbit was so heavy. Indeed, he said it seemed as if he was carrying a house on his back by the time he reached the edge of the woods.

Then they talked the matter over and decided they would both walk—or run if they had to. Doctor Rabbit was a good deal worried. He looked out across the Wide Prairie and saw how far it was to Jack Rabbit's little house. How he did hate to start! Then he had an idea. He saw several small trees out on the Prairie some distance apart. "Say! Jack Rabbit," said he, "I wonder if there are

any holes among the roots of those trees so I could 'hole up' [he meant run into a hole] if I had to. I mean if Ki-yi Coyote should get after us."

"Sure enough!" cried Jack Rabbit. "The rain has washed bare the top roots of every one of those trees and there are two or three holes under every tree!"

Doctor Rabbit looked very straight at Jack Rabbit and said, "Now are you right sure about that?"

"Yes, I am sure," Jack Rabbit said; "as sure as anything. It happens that I was at every one of those trees just yesterday and I sniffed and snuffed round every one of those holes. I didn't go into any of them for I don't like to go into holes. But those holes are certainly there. And if Ki-yi Coyote should get after us when we get pretty well out on the Prairie, you could make for a tree and I'd let him chase me. I'm not much afraid of him because I've run away from him many a time."

"All right," agreed Doctor Rabbit. "We'll go straight for the first tree. When we get there we'll look all around for the least sign of slinky Ki-yi,

and if we don't see anything we'll move on to the next tree."

"Sure thing," Jack Rabbit said; "that will make you as safe as anything." So they started out. As they hurried along Jack Rabbit said:

"When we leave the last tree we'll have only a little way to go to my home.

It's just a little farther on beside an oak fence post."

So they kept going, hoppity, hoppity, hop. And as they went Doctor Rabbit's courage rose little by little. After all, thought he, perhaps Ki-yi Coyote would not see them.

Even so, he kept a sharp eye out for anything that might be moving in the grass. And he told Jack Rabbit to do the same.

"Indeed I will, sir," Jack Rabbit answered. "I always do look out. I should say I do! And if Ki-yi Coyote starts up I'll see him quick as a flash!"

Then they hurried a bit faster because Doctor Rabbit said he wanted to get to the first tree and examine the holes for himself.

THE HOLES UNDER THE TREES

Doctor Rabbit and Mr. Jack Rabbit moved across the Wide Prairie and looked about them in every direction. There was a great deal of bunch grass on the Wide Prairie, and this made them very nervous. They knew how easy it would be for Ki-yi Coyote to hide behind one of those bunches of grass until an innocent rabbit came very near.

Doctor Rabbit stopped and said, "I really believe we should keep just as far as possible from every bunch of grass." Then he jumped backward, because he saw something moving in

the grass. But it proved to be nothing but a sunflower; so they walked on.

By and by they came to the first tree, and how glad they were! Doctor Rabbit went into the hole there to look about. After a little time he came out and said a gray squirrel had been there, but it had been a good while before. He said it looked to him like an old house that people had lived in once, but not for a long time. You know how the grass grows up tall in the front yard, and the windows get broken, and the doors creak when you open them, and there is a damp, musty smell in a house. Well, Doctor Rabbit said it was that way in the hole under the tree. Some animal, a gray squirrel, maybe, had lived there, and perhaps some other small animal before the gray squirrel; but they were gone now.

Doctor Rabbit said there was one thing that bothered him a little.

"What's that?" Friend Jack Rabbit wanted to know. "Why," replied wise Doctor Rabbit, "I was just thinking that possibly Ki-yi Coyote knows who lived here, and why they are gone. Maybe he made a breakfast of them!"

They didn't say any more about that part of it, and pretty soon they came to the next tree. Doctor Rabbit went into the hole here, also. He was gone so long that Jack Rabbit began to be quite troubled; but finally Doctor Rabbit came out and said a cottontail rabbit had been in there, but it had been a good while ago. He thought it likely that old Ki-yi Coyote had gobbled up the cottontail who had lived there.

"However," Doctor Rabbit said, "possibly he got away." Then he exclaimed, "I surely hope he got away."

Doctor Rabbit looked into the holes under the other two trees, and said some small animals had once lived in them.

All this naturally made Doctor Rabbit more and more nervous. It looked as if no animal was safe out so far on the Wide Prairie but fleet Jack Rabbit, and even he had to watch out mighty close.

When they left the last tree, Doctor Rabbit said, "Now let's run good and fast the rest of the way!"

And they did—hoppity, hoppity, hoppity, so fast that they looked like two long gray streaks going toward Jack Rabbit's home.

DOCTORING BILLY RABBIT

When Doctor Rabbit at last reached Jack Rabbit's home, he found Billy Rabbit was suffering with nothing more than a case of acute indigestion—that is, colic. Doctor Rabbit said this was caused by Billy's having eaten too many green peas from Farmer Roe's garden.

Mrs. Jack Rabbit explained that kind friends and neighbors had brought in all sorts of patent medicines. These medicines, they said, had cured many of their family, even some who had lived before they were born.

"But," said Mrs. Jack Rabbit, looking seriously at Doctor Rabbit, "although I gave Billy

all the medicine they brought, he is no better. In fact, he is worse."

Doctor Rabbit looked at Billy Rabbit and then looked over his gold glasses at the neighbors and friends standing all around. Then he said, "He grew worse, did he? Ahem! ahem! he grew worse! I see! I see! Well, to tell you the truth, Mrs. Jack Rabbit, after all that dope I should think he would grow worse!"

Well, that was pretty plain. Some of the neighbors wanted to let it be known that they were angry, but they didn't dare. No, you see their own work on Billy Rabbit was a failure. They had sent for the doctor, and they had to do just what he said.

So they all kept still, and Doctor Rabbit, after he had cleared his throat in a very dignified way, said, "Mrs. Jack Rabbit, I would thank you for a tablespoon."

When he got the tablespoon, Doctor

Rabbit gave Billy Rabbit about the nastiest tasting medicine in the world. Now, guess what it was! Castor Oil? That's right, you guessed it the

first time! Yes, that's exactly what Doctor Rabbit gave him—a whole tablespoonful.

Billy Rabbit swallowed the whole spoonful before he knew what it was. Then, although he had before been lying quite still, he jumped around in the bed, kicked off the covers, and said he never would take another dose of medicine in his life.

But Doctor Rabbit just laughed and said that was the way little sick rabbits usually talked. Then Doctor Rabbit ordered some grass tea for his patient, and no more green peas for a whole week. "I shall have to be going now," he said, "and how I do wish I were back in the Big Green Woods!"

Now all the jack rabbit neighbors were feeling pretty friendly by this time, because they saw that Doctor Rabbit really was a very smart doctor. They all wanted to go along with him for his protection.

But Doctor Rabbit said, "No, that will do no good. Ki-yi Coyote would see all of us sooner than two of us. Friend Jack Rabbit and I will go back alone."

So the two of them started back toward the woods.

KI-YI COYOTE CHASES DOCTOR RABBIT

Doctor Rabbit and Jack Rabbit hurried along across the Wide Prairie until they came to the first tree. Here Doctor Rabbit said they had better stop and look around a bit. So cautious Jack Rabbit went up on a little hill and looked all around, but he said he couldn't see a thing.

"Did you look mighty close in the direction of the Big Green Woods?" Doctor Rabbit wanted to know. (You see this was the direction in which they were going.)

"Indeed, I did look!" replied Jack Rabbit. "I looked more closely in that direction than in any other, and there wasn't a thing in sight."

"All right," said Doctor Rabbit, "we'll go for the next tree."

They came safely to the next tree, and pretty soon they came to the last tree. Doctor Rabbit was feeling fine now. They stopped by the tree and talked for a little while.

Doctor Rabbit said, "I don't think I should care much if Ki-yi Coyote did come after us. I could run away from him and be in the Big Green Woods in no time!"

But Jack Rabbit had run away from Ki-yi Coyote a good many times, and he knew. So he said pretty seriously, "I don't know about that, Doctor Rabbit. Ki-yi can run something awful."

"I know," said Doctor Rabbit, "but the Big Green Woods look so close that I feel sure I could beat him that far."

Then what do you suppose he said?
Well, he didn't realize what he was saying, of course, but this is what he said: "Ha, ha, ha! Why, Friend Jack Rabbit, I feel so sure about it that I

wish old Ki-yi would come tearing out this way right now! Yes, sir! I wish he would. Just let him come whenever he wants to. If he came, I'd run away and be in the Big Green Woods so quick he could hardly see me."

And then something happened, something that Doctor Rabbit was not ready for at all, because he really was not expecting it. Just then Ki-yi Coyote did come tearing over the great Wide Prairie after them. And he came from the direction of the Big Green Woods! Doctor Rabbit had forgotten all about that. He certainly was very much surprised, and very badly scared. He could have darted into the hole under the tree, of course, and that is just what he should have done. But sometimes when rabbits, like little boys and girls, get scared, they forget all about what is the best thing to do. What Doctor Rabbit ought to have done the very first thing when he saw Ki-yi coming was to say to himself, "Now, I mustn't be so scared that I don't know what I'm doing. I must be careful and get out of this, because I have no one to help me."

But he didn't stop to think. No, he was so frightened he just hiked out across the Wide Prairie!

Then kind Jack Rabbit was certainly scared, not for himself, but for Doctor Rabbit. So he started out after Doctor Rabbit, and when he caught up he shouted in his ear as loud as he could, "What's the matter with you, Doctor Rabbit? You must be crazy! Now, I'll take care of Ki-yi Coyote and you dodge back for that hole under the tree." Then Doctor Rabbit remembered. Crafty Ki-yi was right close and tried hard to seize him, but he didn't, and Doctor Rabbit darted safely into the hole.

It was a mighty close call. Ki-yi Coyote's sharp teeth had snapped twice at Doctor Rabbit, once so close that some of his tiny round tail was bitten off.

All this time clever Jack Rabbit was close beside Doctor Rabbit, shouting (just to fool Ki-yi Coyote, of course), "Oh, my! I've got a broken leg! I've got a broken leg! What shall I do if Ki-yi Coyote comes after me! Oh, good Ki-yi, please don't come after me, 'cause I've got a broken leg!"

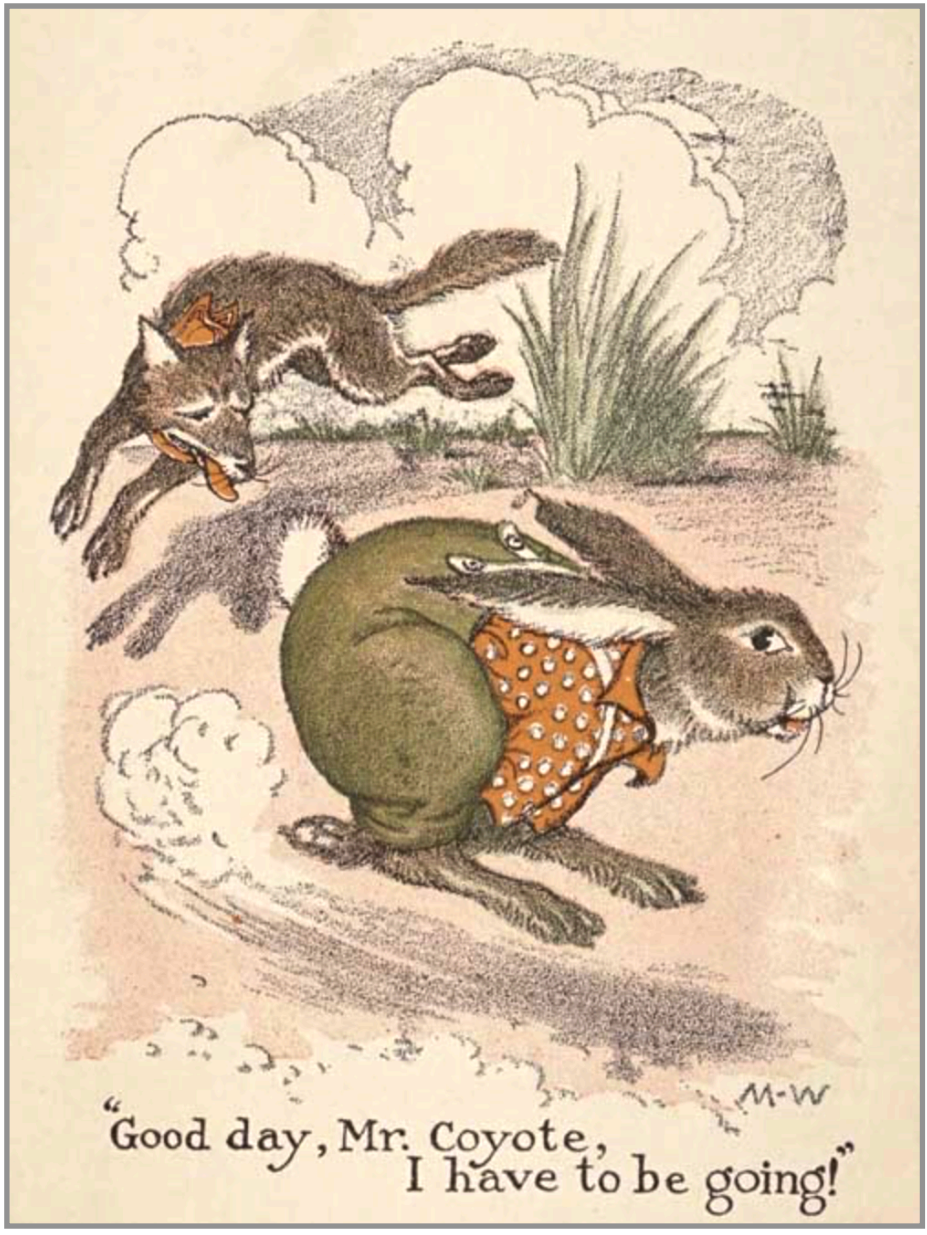
Well, if it hadn't been for this, I think that Ki-yi would certainly have caught Doctor Rabbit, but after he had missed him once, and was just going for him again, he heard Jack Rabbit's moan. So he said, "I'll go after Jack Rabbit. He has a broken leg, and I can catch him without half trying." And off he started after Jack Rabbit.

DOCTOR RABBIT GETS A SCARE

When Jack Rabbit saw that Ki-yi Coyote was after him, he started away on three legs for all the world as if one of his legs was broken. It was very easy for him to play this little joke, because he had practiced it a good deal when a small dog got after him.

"Oh dear! Oh dear! Oh dear! what shall I do?" clever Jack Rabbit shouted back toward Ki-yi Coyote; and old Ki-yi thought now he would surely have rabbit for dinner. So he ran as hard as ever he could.

"Ha! ha!" he yelled. "I always knew you'd break your leg some time, and I'd get you. Ha! ha!


M-W
"Good day, Mr. Coyote,
I have to be going!"

Now I'm going to have a nice, big, fat rabbit for dinner!" And Ki-yi Coyote took a long, swift jump to seize Jack Rabbit—but he wasn't there! He was farther away than ever. And much to Ki-yi's surprise and anger, Jack Rabbit put all four legs down on the ground and said as he ran, "So you're going to have rabbit for dinner, are you? Well, it won't be me, and it won't be Doctor Rabbit, for he's safe. Good day, Ki-yi; I must be going!"

"Good day, Mr. Coyote, I have to be going!"

And away Jack Rabbit went running. But he wasn't to get away so easily this time, after all. Ki-yi was most terribly angry, and he made up his mind to chase Jack Rabbit just as long as he could see him.

In the meantime, Doctor Rabbit lay down on the cool earth in the hole, and panted and panted. He was dreadfully tired and frightened from his run for life. He kept thinking that Ki-yi would thrust his long nose into the hole and begin digging to get in. But Ki-yi didn't, of course.

After Doctor Rabbit had rested a few minutes he began to be anxious to know what had

become of Friend Jack Rabbit. Had Ki-yi by any chance caught him? Doctor Rabbit was scared even to think about it. He decided he would try to find out what had happened. So he crept very cautiously toward the opening of the hole and peeped out. First he put only his nose out. Then he put his whole head out, and looked all around. He had about decided that swift Jack Rabbit had given old Ki-yi the slip. "Guess I'd better hike for the Big Green Woods," said Doctor Rabbit to himself, and he was just going to start when he saw something that made him change his mind mighty quick. And this time he didn't run for the Big Green Woods, either. I should say he didn't! No, he just backed part way into the hole under the tree, and then stretched up his head and watched what was coming.

What Doctor Rabbit saw was poor Jack Rabbit running as hard as he could, and Ki-yi Coyote still after him!

As he came on toward the tree, Jack Rabbit shouted out ever so loud, "Doctor Rabbit! Doctor Rabbit! Come out and help me a little. I'm about to be caught! It's my rheumatism. He's

almost got me now!" And just then Jack Rabbit had to dodge very quickly to keep from being caught.

It certainly looked very bad for poor Jack Rabbit, and right then Ki-yi Coyote came very near seizing him again! Doctor Rabbit was almost too scared to breathe. He didn't know what on earth to do except to spring out and let Ki-yi chase him instead. And he was about to do this when he thought of something else. So he just lay low and waited while Jack Rabbit came running nearer and nearer the tree.

DOCTOR RABBIT AND JACK RABBIT ESCAPE

While Jack Rabbit, with Ki-yi Coyote close after him, was running toward the tree, Doctor Rabbit shouted out, "Come right past this tree, Jack Rabbit! Come right past this tree! I've got a plan! Come right along, I'll help you. Come on! Come on!"

That encouraged Friend Jack Rabbit wonderfully. He took a few extra long jumps and managed to get a little farther ahead of Ki-yi Coyote. Of course he didn't know what Doctor Rabbit was going to do, but Jack Rabbit always had great faith in Doctor Rabbit. So he ran right past the hole under the tree.

Then, just as crafty Ki-yi was going by with his mouth wide open and his tongue hanging out, Doctor Rabbit sprang up and threw a whole bottle of his very nastiest medicine right into Ki-yi's face!

Well, you should have seen old Ki-yi then. He was more surprised than he ever had been before in his life. And mad! He was about the maddest coyote you ever heard of. His mouth had been wide open, so of course he got most of the medicine there. It tasted so nasty he stopped just a moment to try to get it out of his mouth, but when he found he couldn't, he started out after Doctor Rabbit. He was angrier than ever, and ran as hard as he could run.

Just as soon as Doctor Rabbit had thrown the bad-tasting medicine in Ki-yi Coyote's face, he started out for the Big Green Woods as fast as his legs could carry him. Jack Rabbit had dodged over a little hill and was out of sight.

When angry Ki-yi started after him again Doctor Rabbit was already near the Big Green Woods, so he looked back and just laughed and shouted. "Ha, ha, ha!" he laughed. "I guess you're pretty mad, aren't you, Mr. Ki-yi? Ha, ha, ha! How do you like the medicine? Is it as good as—as good as jack rabbit? Ha, ha, ha!" And with that, Doctor Rabbit bounded into the Big Green Woods, and whisked out of sight.

As Doctor Rabbit ran along, he met Jack Rabbit, who also had managed to get into the woods. They both kept running until they reached Doctor Rabbit's home in the big tree.

Here tired Jack Rabbit threw himself down on the grass and panted for a long while. He said it was about the hardest race he ever had had in his life, and that he guessed he must be getting old, for he couldn't run as fast as he used to. But after Doctor Rabbit had brought out some liniment and rubbed him well, Jack Rabbit said he felt better. Then after he had eaten a good dinner with Doctor Rabbit, he said he felt so fine he believed he could run away from Ki-yi Coyote and not half try.

"What I need," said Jack Rabbit, "is a little of that liniment around the house, so my wife could rub me with it now and then. I believe it would cure my rheumatism."

"I am quite certain of it," Doctor Rabbit told him, and he wrapped up a bottle of it right away and gave it to Jack Rabbit to take home with him. After that they sat down and talked.

"I wish," said Jack Rabbit then, "that there were some way to run Ki-yi Coyote clear out of the Wide Prairie, or some way to get rid of him altogether."

Doctor Rabbit was leaning against a tree curling his mustache and frowning a little. When he was thinking hard, he usually did frown. "I've been thinking about that, Friend Jack Rabbit," he said, "and I believe I know a way to get rid of crafty Ki-yi, so he'll never bother us again."

"You do?" exclaimed Jack Rabbit eagerly, pricking up his long ears. "What is your plan?"
Doctor Rabbit dropped his voice to a whisper and said, "I haven't thought it all out yet, but I will right soon, and I'll let you know." Then he looked through the trees toward the edge of the woods, and pointing one front foot, said:

"Look! look! Ki-yi's sneaking along out there now!" Jack Rabbit looked quickly, and sure enough, Ki-yi Coyote was slipping along and peering into the woods.

"He doesn't see us at all," whispered Jack Rabbit, "and I think I'll skip out and go while I know where he is. Now, when you decide how

you're going to run him out of the Wide Prairie and get rid of him, let me know, will you?"

"I surely will," Doctor Rabbit said, "and I'll have it all thought out by morning."

Then Jack Rabbit slipped away to tell all his friends and relatives that in some way, he didn't just yet know how, Doctor Rabbit was going to get rid of Ki-yi Coyote.

KI-YI COYOTE WATCHES FOR DOCTOR RABBIT

It was just as Doctor Rabbit had expected. He had not told Jack Rabbit about it, but that very night Ki-yi Coyote came prowling around, just as Doctor Rabbit thought he would.

Doctor Rabbit was in bed, but he had not gone to sleep, when he heard a noise out in his front yard. Very quietly he put his head out of an upstairs window.

Sure enough! There was slinky Ki-yi walking around out there and mumbling to himself. He was saying, "I know well enough he lives here. I can smell his tracks, and I can smell rabbit, too, as plain as anything. He's gone to bed now, no

doubt, so I'll hide out here and pay him a call in the morning."

"He, he, he!" Ki-yi chuckled softly to himself. He was so tickled to think he had found where Doctor Rabbit lived. He thought now it would be easy to surprise Doctor Rabbit and make a breakfast of him.

Only a little distance away flowed the Murmuring Brook, where Doctor Rabbit went every morning for a drink.

There was a path that led from Doctor Rabbit's house to the brook, and Ki-yi Coyote thought he would hide right beside the path in the bushes. Then when Doctor Rabbit came along in the morning, he could pounce upon him and have him for breakfast.

So sly Ki-yi picked out a good place near the path and lay down to wait until morning.

"I suppose I'll get pretty tired waiting," he said, "but a big fat rabbit for breakfast is worth waiting for." And he smacked his lips at the very thought of it. Then he said, "My! I haven't tasted rabbit for two whole months. Yes, indeed, I'll wait

right here until morning!" And again Ki-yi smacked his lips.

Now it so happened that Downy Screech Owl was in the tree right above Ki-yi Coyote, and heard what he said.

"Get out of my woods!" Downy Screech Owl cried, in his strange voice.

Old Ki-yi jumped, he was so startled. Then he looked up and saw who it was. "Never mind, Screechy," he said, in his smoothest voice, "I just came in for a cool drink at the Murmuring Brook and a little nap here."

"You can't fool me!" Downy Owl cried back in his very strange voice. "You're after something, and I know it!

I know whom you are after, too. You are after—"

Right here Downy Screech Owl stopped talking. He happened to think he might say something that would get Doctor Rabbit into trouble. So he made up his mind to keep still for the present, and slip over in a little while and tell Doctor Rabbit where Ki-yi Coyote was. You see, Downy Owl didn't know that Doctor Rabbit was

awake. He didn't know that Ki-yi Coyote had even been seen by anybody else.

Downy Screech Owl waited until Ki-yi Coyote curled himself up, as if for a nap, and then flew around to Doctor Rabbit's back door and knocked very gently.

Doctor Rabbit opened the door only a very little crack, but when he saw who it was, he let Downy Owl in. And Downy began right away, for he was very much excited: "Ki-yi Coyote is right out there, hiding by the path, waiting for you!" he said.

But to his surprise, Doctor Rabbit answered, "I know it. I've been watching him all the time!"

"My, I'm certainly glad you have," said Downy Screech Owl; "but what are you going to do?"

"Don't talk so loud!" Doctor Rabbit warned. "I'm going to do this: I'm going to fool old Ki-yi worse than he ever was fooled before in his life. The first joke I play on him will be funny. But the second joke I play on him will take him clear away from the Big Green Woods and the Wide

Prairie for good and all."

"My goodness me!" was all Downy Screech Owl could say, he was so puzzled. "How are you going to play the jokes on sly Ki-yi, and what are the jokes?" he wanted to know.

"Never mind now," Doctor Rabbit whispered; "you just slip back and see if Ki-yi is still there. If he is, try to keep him there."

DOCTOR RABBIT
CALLS ON CHATTY SQUIRREL

Little Downy Owl flew back to the tree. There was Ki-yi Coyote still lying below on the grass, all curled up just as if he were fast asleep. Downy Screech Owl looked at him for a while and then, out of curiosity, flew down on a limb a little closer. Still Ki-yi Coyote did not move, so Downy Owl flew a little closer. Just then he saw sly Ki-yi move his ear the tiniest bit, and heard him mumble something to himself. Little Downy flew up high in the tree as quick as winking.

"Sakes alive!"
Mr. Squirrel exclaimed.
"How did you find out?"
M-W

"I'll just wait," he said very softly to himself, "and if old Ki-yi starts to go away, I'll talk to him and try to keep him here until I see what Doctor Rabbit is going to do."

When it was almost morning, Doctor Rabbit got out of bed and peeped out toward the place where Ki-yi had been. Yes, sir! He was still there. Indeed, he was. Doctor Rabbit saw him stretch his head up and look toward the house in the tree. Doctor Rabbit was so tickled he just laughed to himself. Then he slipped out at his back door and went very quietly through the woods until he came to the tree where Chatty Red Squirrel lived.

Chatty Red was still asleep, but when Doctor Rabbit thumped on the door, he came down to see who was there. When he saw Doctor Rabbit, he said, "Anyone sick over this way, Doctor?"

"No," said Doctor Rabbit, "I just wanted you to help me out a little."

"I certainly will, if I can," Chatty Squirrel said. You see, he had once had the colic very bad, and Doctor Rabbit had come right over and cured

him, so he felt deeply grateful. "What do you want me to do?" Chatty asked.

"Well," Doctor Rabbit said, "first I want to tell you that Ki-yi Coyote is in the Big Green Woods. In fact, he's hiding near my house this very minute, and expects to make a breakfast of me when I go down to the Murmuring Brook for a drink."

"Sakes alive!" Chatty exclaimed. "How did you find out?"

Then Doctor Rabbit told him that he had been awake and listening, and that Downy Screech Owl was up in the tree watching Ki-yi, and if necessary would talk to him to keep him there.

"Sakes alive!" Mr. Squirrel exclaimed. "How did you find out? "Well, well, well!" exclaimed Chatty Squirrel, rubbing his eyes. He had hardly been awake when Doctor Rabbit knocked on the door, but now he was getting wider awake every minute. "What do you want me to do?" Chatty asked again, with his eyes wide open and very bright.

"First I want to play a joke on him," said Doctor Rabbit, "and I'll tell you how to do it. Ki-yi is now right under that big elm tree between my house and the Murmuring Brook. You slip over through the trees as quick as you can and climb up to that old nest Jim Crow used to live in.

There's a stone in the nest that Farmer Roe's boy threw at you the other day. Do you remember?"

"Indeed I do remember, because Farmer Roe's boy almost hit me with that stone," Chatty Squirrel said.

"Very well, then," said Doctor Rabbit, "you get into that nest and get hold of that stone, and when you have a good chance, drop it down right on Ki-yi Coyote. Then lie flat on the limb and keep perfectly still, so he won't know where the stone came from."

"But where are you going to be, and what will you do?" Chatty Squirrel wanted to know. He was very nervous about it.

"You wait and see; I'll attend to that," Doctor Rabbit said softly. "And now you hurry along before Ki-yi Coyote decides to go away."

FOOLING KI-YI COYOTE

Chatty Red Squirrel remembered well enough how Farmer Roe's boy had thrown that rock up at him a few days before when he had taken refuge in Jim Crow's old nest.

It so happened that Chatty Squirrel was not much hurt. In fact he was only bruised a little when the stone fell into the nest. But he had been badly scared—indeed he had, because the stone was big enough to do him terrible harm if it had struck him squarely.

Chatty Squirrel thought it would be a mighty fine joke to slip over and drop that stone on Ki-yi Coyote. He naturally hated old Ki-yi as much as anybody, because for breakfast—or just

any time—Ki-yi was quite as fond of tender squirrel as he was of fat little rabbit or juicy little owl.

So when Doctor Rabbit slipped away toward a little bridge over the Murmuring Brook, Chatty Squirrel started off through the tree tops toward the big elm under which Ki-yi Coyote lay waiting.

It was just daylight when Chatty Red reached the big elm and got into the old crow's nest where the stone was. He peeped over the edge of the nest and down. Yes, sir! There was old Ki-yi Coyote! He had his ears pricked up, and he was squinting through the trees toward Doctor Rabbit's house.

"He'll come this way now, very soon!" greedy Ki-yi said, and smacked his lips. Chatty heard him, and was so angry he almost scolded out loud. But he didn't. He kept perfectly still and thought about the stone. Ki-yi Coyote moved a little, and now he was right under the old crow's nest.

Chatty Red wondered where Doctor Rabbit was, and looked down on the ground and all

around, but he couldn't see him.

"I'll obey orders, anyway," Chatty whispered to himself, and he got his nose under the stone and began to work it toward the edge of the nest.

Ki-yi Coyote didn't know what was going on, of course, so he just lay still, smacked his lips, and kept a sharp eye on Doctor Rabbit's house.

After a little work, Chatty Squirrel got the stone to the edge of the nest, and then just as Ki-yi Coyote stretched his head a little, Chatty pushed the big stone over. Kerplunk! the stone hit Ki-yi right on the ear! Well, he was about the scaredest coyote that ever was. He yelped and sprang up in the air, and jumped all around.

Then right from the other side of the Murmuring Brook came the voice of Doctor Rabbit. "Ha, ha, ha! Well, well, foxy Ki-yi, what made you jump so? Ha, ha, ha! guess you didn't know I could throw so straight! Ha, ha, ha!"

Naturally Ki-yi Coyote thought Doctor Rabbit had thrown the stone, and he was terribly angry. Away he started. Yes, sir, he just ground his teeth and said he certainly would get Doctor

Rabbit, and get him in a hurry, too. But luckily Murmuring Brook was between them, so Doctor Rabbit laughed and shouted again and darted out of sight in the woods.

KI-YI COYOTE CHASES DOCTOR RABBIT

As soon as Ki-yi Coyote started after Doctor Rabbit, Chatty Squirrel began scolding as hard as he could. Ki-yi was running so fast he didn't hear, but Chatty scolded anyway. It seemed to relieve his angry feelings. My! How angry Chatty Squirrel was! He was angrier than he had ever been in all his life before.

"The idea," Chatty Squirrel scolded, "of Ki-yi Coyote's coming into the Big Green Woods to make a breakfast of Doctor Rabbit! And he would make a breakfast of me, too, or of Blue Jay, or of any of us, if he had a chance. I wish I were as big as the big brown bear for a minute. I'd show old Ki-yi Coyote!"

And Chatty Squirrel scolded so fast and so loud that presently his neighbors heard him and came flocking around to see what the trouble was.

"What's that you say?" asked Stubby Woodchuck, running up to the foot of the tree.

"What's that? What's that? What's that?" cried Blue Jay, and Jim Crow, and ever so many others as they came up.

"You'd better say, 'What's that?'" Chatty Squirrel chattered. "I just now dropped a stone on Ki-yi Coyote, who was lying right down there in those bushes. He was all ready to pounce on Doctor Rabbit and gobble him up!"

"Indeed!" exclaimed Blue Jay in his shrill voice.

"Indeed!" Jim Crow called in his hoarse voice.

"Indeed!" said big Uncle Owl in his deep bass voice. "Indeed! Indeed!" he exclaimed again seriously, as he straightened his spectacles. Now Uncle Owl hardly ever said more than one word, and when he said three words without stopping, it meant something very unusual had happened to him. He was almost excited.

All the little creatures of the Big Green Woods kept a respectful silence, even Chatty Squirrel, and listened respectfully for Uncle Owl to speak. So big Uncle Owl (he was more than twice as big as little Downy Owl) cleared his throat and looked straight at Chatty Squirrel. Then he said, "Well, well, why didn't you kill him?"

"I wish I could have killed him," Chatty Squirrel chattered angrily. "But anyway I hit him. And Doctor Rabbit fooled him ever so much, because, you see, Doctor Rabbit was on the other side of Murmuring Brook and ran away from Ki-yi as easily as anything. But what are we going to do?" Chatty went on. "Haven't we got enough to do to live without having old Ki-yi Coyote sneaking around in the Big Green Woods? I tell you, my friends, it's an outrage!"

Then they all looked at big Uncle Owl, and after a while he said in his deep voice, "My friends, I think we should have Doctor Rabbit call a meeting at once and see if we can't get rid of this danger. It would be serious, very serious indeed, if Ki-yi Coyote should decide to live in the Big Green Woods. He might make a meal of almost any

of us. I've noticed that he is not at all particular what he eats, whether it's a bird or an animal. Only yesterday I saw him spring from some bunch grass in the prairie and seize a friend of mine, a small owl that had just come out of an old hole prairie-dog Paddy-Paws used to live in.

"Yes, indeed," old Uncle Owl went on, much excited for him, "yes, indeed! We must find Doctor Rabbit, and see what he has to say about it. I'll not rest until this terrible Ki-yi Coyote is driven entirely away from our Big Green Woods." And with that, stately Uncle Owl waddled back to his hole in the tree, where he stood looking out.

The other little creatures of the Big Green Woods then talked the matter over. Blue Jay said that if only they all could make as much noise as he could, he was sure they could drive Ki-yi Coyote away with noise alone. But since the others couldn't make as much noise, this plan had to be given up.

Gay Red Bird said he surely did wish he could think of some scheme to scare Ki-yi away, but being a mere bird he couldn't. Robin-the-Red said so too. Stubby Woodchuck and Cheepy

Chipmunk both said they'd like to do it, but they didn't know how, either. They all looked at one another, and each one waited for some one else to speak. And just then they saw Doctor Rabbit coming across the woods toward them.

He wasn't running as if he were the least bit scared. Oh, no, he was acting as if he were glad about something. There was no doubt about that, because every now and then he would kick up his heels and laugh. And the nearer he came the more he danced and laughed.

M-W
Dr. Rabbit ... was
certainly tickled about something

DOCTOR RABBIT HAS A SCHEME

Doctor Rabbit came up jumping and dancing and laughing. He was certainly very much tickled about something, that was plain.

"Good morning, my friends," he said finally. "I suppose you all have come out here to see what Chatty Squirrel is scolding about. Has he told you?"

"Yes, yes, about Ki-yi Coyote!" they all said together.

"Well," Doctor Rabbit said, and he laughed again, "I gave old Ki-yi the slip pretty easily that time. Indeed I did, and Chatty Squirrel and I certainly did fool him! I guess we did fool him! Ha, ha, ha!" And Doctor Rabbit was so tickled he just

had to hold his sides when he remembered how Ki-yi Coyote had jumped, and how puzzled he had looked when the stone hit him.

"The last I saw of him," Doctor Rabbit said, "he was sneaking along the Wide Prairie at the edge of the woods, looking for Jack Rabbit; and he was mumbling to himself and saying he was going to get me and Jack Rabbit too. But I'll take care of that. He thinks I'm not smart enough for him, but just let him wait and see! When I ran away from him and got into the briar patch, he shouted in at me and said:

"'All right for this time, Doctor Rabbit, but I'll get you the next time, and some of your friends, too. In fact, I think I like the Big Green Woods, and I'm going to live here. Perhaps I'll live here right along!'"

Dr. Rabbit ... was certainly tickled about something that troubled everybody but Doctor Rabbit. All the other little creatures of the Big Green Woods looked seriously at one another, and Stubby Woodchuck climbed up on a stump and looked nervously around. "I wish we could drive Ki-yi Coyote ten miles away, and I wish he

never could get back!" Stubby Woodchuck said, with a very scared look on his face.

"Let's do it!" shouted Blue Jay. Blue Jay didn't have the least idea how it could be done, but he was willing to try, even as small as he was.

"Perhaps Doctor Rabbit has a plan," said Robin-the-Red. "He usually helps us out."

Then they all looked at Doctor Rabbit. Even old Uncle Owl looked from his hole in the tree.

"Well," said Doctor Rabbit, cheerfully, "I have been thinking about this since yesterday. First I thought out a way for us to catch Ki-yi, but that would be pretty dangerous for us, so I have decided to try another plan. I think my scheme will work, and none of us will have to get very close to Ki-yi Coyote, either. In fact, I think Jack Rabbit and I can do it ourselves, though we shall need the help of one very savage creature. I will tell you about him later."

"Let's do it right now!" shouted busy Blue Jay.

"No," Doctor Rabbit said, "it will take a little time. I'm going over to see Jack Rabbit this very

afternoon," he continued. "After I have talked with him and we are all ready, I'll tell Friend Blue Jay and he'll tell you. Then all you'll need to do will be to come close to this big tree, and hide, and watch. You must excuse me now," he said. "I must go over and see one of Frisky Grey Squirrel's children who has been eating too many green nuts. Early in the morning Blue Jay will tell you when we shall be ready."

And with that Doctor Rabbit went away, hoppity, hoppity, hoppity, to see the little sick squirrel.

THE LITTLE CREATURES OF THE WOODS ARE EXCITED

The next day all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods talked of nothing but fierce Ki-yi Coyote. They wondered how Doctor Rabbit ever would drive him out of the Wide Prairie. They were all unusually careful, of course, because they did not know what moment Ki-yi Coyote might come tearing along.

Stubby Woodchuck was afraid to get up on his stump to sun himself. He only put his head a little way out of his door and looked around. Cheepy Chipmunk was frisking around his stump and, seeing his neighbor, Stubby Woodchuck, he

called out, "Come on over, Friend Stubby. I have some fine vegetables for breakfast!"

"No, thank you," Stubby Woodchuck said from his doorway. "We had all better keep indoors until that dreadful Ki-yi Coyote leaves the woods entirely," and Stubby closed his door and went back into his kitchen, for he had not had his breakfast.

While Cheepy Chipmunk was frisking around he got a terrible scare. He had just jumped up on his stump when he was sure he saw Ki-yi's long tail showing from behind a near-by tree. Poor Cheepy fell off backward, he was so scared. He picked himself up as fast as he could, but when he looked again, he saw it was only Chatty Red Squirrel's tail, blowing from behind the tree.

"Cheer! cheer! cheer!" shouted Blue Jay, who had seen Cheepy Chipmunk fall off the stump. "What's the matter, Cheepy? Ha, ha, ha!"

"You'd better go and attend to your business, if you have any," retorted Cheepy Chipmunk angrily. But saucy Blue Jay only laughed again. He understood Cheepy

Chipmunk, and he knew he would not stay angry very long.

"I'll wager anything you fell because you thought you saw Ki-yi Coyote," shouted saucy Blue Jay; "I'm going out to see where he is!" And away he flew.

Cheepy Chipmunk went inside, where Mrs. Chipmunk was getting the vegetables ready for breakfast. Little Jimmy Chipmunk, Cheepy and Mrs. Cheepy's small son, was running around after his mother as she worked, and asking her questions. He had never seen Ki-yi Coyote, and so had no idea about his size. "Mamma," he asked, "is Ki-yi Coyote as big as one of Farmer Roe's horses?"

"Why, of course not," Mother Chipmunk answered. "But he's big enough, and fierce enough too, for that matter; and for the present you must not so much as poke your nose outside the door."

"Will Doctor Rabbit find some way to drive Ki-yi Coyote out of the Big Green Woods?" Jimmy Chipmunk asked.

"I believe he will; I do hope so," Mother Chipmunk said. She was a good deal worried about Jimmy Chipmunk, because he was so often careless, and went out without telling her a thing about it.

"I wish," said Jimmy, crossly, "that old Ki-yi would fall down a well so deep he never could climb out again. I just hate to stay in the house. I want to go over right now and play with Johnny Woodchuck. I told him I'd come this morning."

"I wouldn't let you go for the world," Mother Chipmunk said; and then, very quietly, she slipped out at the back door and climbed up on the stump. But the minute she got up on the stump she nearly fell off backward, she was so scared. You see, Mother Chipmunk's near neighbor climbed up on her stump at the very same time, and they were both so surprised to see each other that they were dreadfully frightened.

"My sakes alive!" Sophy Woodchuck's voice trembled. "How you did frighten me, Neighbor Chipmunk! I suppose we all are pretty easily frightened at this time. One never knows when

that terrible Ki-yi Coyote will spring out and make an end of us!"

"I have great faith in Doctor Rabbit," Mother Chipmunk said. She had overheard what Doctor Rabbit had promised the day before. "He told us yesterday," she continued, "that he will drive Ki-yi Coyote clear out of the Big Green Woods and clear out of the Wide Prairie."

"I wonder how in the world he will do it!" Sophy Woodchuck said.

"I haven't the slightest idea," her neighbor replied.

"Well," Sophy Woodchuck said, "we don't care how he does it, so long as the thing is done."

"No, indeed!" Mother Chipmunk exclaimed. "If only Ki-yi Coyote is driven away."

DOCTOR RABBIT TALKS WITH BIG DOG YAPPY

You remember how badly scared Sophy Woodchuck and Neighbor Chipmunk were when they both climbed up on their stumps at the same time. Well, after their scare was over, they sat on their stumps—which were their homes, of course—and went on talking about various things that had happened among their neighbors of late; but in particular they talked about the terrible Ki-yi Coyote.

Then all of a sudden something happened that made them jump off their stumps, and dart in at their back doors and lock them in a hurry.

They had heard some animal tearing through the woods, apparently straight at them. As they peeked from their windows they naturally thought

it was Ki-yi Coyote. But it wasn't. Ki-yi Coyote would have been far too smart to make so much noise. No, it was Farmer Roe's big dog, Yappy.

Yappy wasn't running after anything in particular. He was just running through the woods to take a little exercise and enjoy himself.

Yappy ran around for a time while the little creatures of the Big Green Woods hid and looked out at him. After he had scratched on Cheepy Chipmunk's door and tried to dig into Stubby Woodchuck's home, Yappy started out of the woods as fast as he had come in.

Just as he passed Doctor Rabbit's house, Doctor Rabbit put his head out of a hole pretty well up in the tree and said, "Good morning, Yappy!"

Happy Yappy stopped mighty quick and looked all around. He couldn't see anybody at first, and he wondered who it was that had spoken. Stubby and Mrs. Stubby and Cheepy and Mrs. Cheepy came to their windows to peek out and listen. Robin-the-Red, Jim Crow, and ever so many other of the little creatures of the Big Green Woods also listened. They wondered what Doctor Rabbit would say to Yappy.

After gazing around and up a little, Yappy at last saw Doctor Rabbit looking from the hole up in the tree.

"Why, good morning, Doctor!" Yappy said, in his pleasantest voice. "Come down on the grass here; you will be more comfortable."

"No, thank you," Doctor Rabbit said, "I'd rather talk from up here. You look pretty hungry, and I just wanted to ask you how you would like to have Jack Rabbit for your breakfast to-morrow morning?"

This was a question that was a little hard for Yappy to answer, under the circumstances. Rabbit was his favorite dish, when he could get one. He saw he could not get Doctor Rabbit, and he thought Doctor Rabbit was just making fun of him. Of course, Yappy was pretty angry. He was all the more angry because, although he had chased Jack Rabbit many times, he never had been able to catch him. Still, he was always willing to try again.

"That's all right about my wanting Jack Rabbit," Yappy snapped; "I could catch him in no time if I wanted to."

Doctor Rabbit almost laughed out loud at this, but he didn't, because that might have spoiled what he wanted to do.

"Why, of course," Doctor Rabbit said in his most friendly tones. "And I have decided I'll give you a chance at him. In fact, I have been watching for you to tell you this very thing. Now, all you have to do," Doctor Rabbit continued, "is to go where I tell you, and when I tell you, and you will run right on to him."

Yappy was certainly puzzled about this matter. Why, he wondered, did Doctor Rabbit want to get rid of Jack Rabbit? "Oh, well," Yappy thought to himself, "perhaps Jack Rabbit has been over in the Big Green Woods cuffing Doctor Rabbit; or maybe it is just because Doctor Rabbit is angry at Jack Rabbit for something or other he's done."

"Well"—and Yappy tried to say it as if he was not very much interested—"Well, I don't care much, but if you want to, you may tell me when and where I can find him."

"Good!" said Doctor Rabbit, and then he continued, "He'll be in a new burrow right by the

first tree you come to out in the Wide Prairie. And he'll be there to-morrow morning at exactly nine o'clock."

"How do you know that?" Yappy asked with deep curiosity.

"Never mind how I know," Doctor Rabbit retorted. "He'll be there as sure as anything."

Yappy yawned as if it didn't make much difference to him. Then he said, "Well, I guess I'll be moving," and away he ran through the woods until he was out of sight.

Doctor Rabbit chuckled to himself. He knew mighty well that Yappy was interested, even if he did try to act as if he didn't care. And he knew the greedy fellow would be at that tree at nine the next morning, too.

Of course the other little creatures of the Big Green Woods were much puzzled that Doctor Rabbit should seem to have turned so quickly against Jack Rabbit. But the next morning they found out all about it. And something happened of which they had never even dreamed.

DOCTOR RABBIT TALKS WITH JACK RABBIT

You remember how Doctor Rabbit looked out of a hole and told Farmer Roe's dog Yappy about catching Jack Rabbit. Well, after Yappy had run away and was out of sight in the woods, Doctor Rabbit concluded he'd better see Jack Rabbit right away. So he slipped quietly out of his house and ran through the woods toward the Wide Prairie.

Doctor Rabbit was lucky, because Jack Rabbit happened to be right on the edge of the woods. And Jack Rabbit said his son Billy was very much better. "I am very grateful," continued Jack Rabbit, "and I wish I could do something now to make you as happy as I am."

"You certainly can," Doctor Rabbit said. "Do you remember the day Ki-yi Coyote chased us out on the Wide Prairie, and I threw the medicine in his mouth?"

"I certainly do," said Jack Rabbit. "And when we got safely over to your house, you said you were thinking about a plan to drive Ki-yi Coyote clear away from the Big Green Woods and the Wide Prairie forever. Is that what you want me to do?"

"Yes," said Doctor Rabbit, "that's exactly what I was going to speak about. I want you to help me. Will you do it?"

"Why," declared Jack Rabbit, "I should say I will, if I can. But how can I help? All you need to do is to tell me what to do and I will do it."

"Don't be too sure you will," Doctor Rabbit warned in a friendly way.

"What I want you to do has some danger in it. Are you much afraid of Farmer Roe's Yappy?"

"Why, why, of course," Jack Rabbit hesitated; "that is, I—I—wouldn't want to fight him!"

"Ha, ha, ha!" Doctor Rabbit couldn't keep from laughing at the idea of Jack Rabbit's fighting Yappy.

"I don't want you to fight him," Doctor Rabbit said, "but would you be willing to let him chase you?"

"Surely," exclaimed Jack Rabbit quickly. "I've given him the slip many a time."

"Suppose," said Doctor Rabbit, "that Yappy and one of his dog friends both should get after you, could you get away?"

"Yes, sir," Jack Rabbit said; "I've given both of those hounds the slip.

They are just fox hounds, and I'm not the least bit afraid when they get after me. But what has that to do with driving Ki-yi Coyote away?"

"Just this," said Doctor Rabbit, moving a little closer. "At nine o'clock to-morrow morning Ki-yi Coyote is going to be right under that big elm where he was this morning, to catch me. Chatty Squirrel heard him say he was. He said, 'Yes, I'll come every morning and hide there until I do catch that big fat rabbit'—meaning me, of course."

M.W
Mr. Jack Rabbit began to dance
a little jig of joy

"Oh, I see! I see!" laughed Jack Rabbit, and he began to dance a little jig of joy. "I know what you want me to do," Jack Rabbit laughed. "You want me to let big old Yappy and his friend get after me, and then you want me to run straight for that big elm, and so lead Yappy and the other hound right onto old Ki-yi. And then they will chase him instead of me!"

"That's it! that's it!" said Doctor Rabbit. He was mighty glad that Jack Rabbit did not seem at all afraid. "And," Doctor Rabbit continued, "when Yappy and his companion once see Ki-yi Coyote, they will forget all about you, and you can get away as easily as anything."

"Oh, ho, ho, ho! ha, ha, ha!" laughed Jack Rabbit. It seemed too good to be true that they could fool crafty Ki-yi, and fool him so completely. Old Ki-yi, who was always getting the best of things, would now get some of the other side. So thought happy Jack-Rabbit.

"That certainly will be mighty fine!" cried Jack Rabbit. "Ki-yi Coyote will be there, smacking his lips, all ready to gobble you up; and the first thing he knows, I'll pop square over him, and the

next second, Yappy will pop square onto him, if he doesn't move mighty quick. Ho, ho, ho!" Jack Rabbit danced and laughed some more. "Yes, indeed, Doctor Rabbit," he said, "I'll surely be at the tree in the Wide Prairie to-morrow morning at nine o'clock. Then be sure to tell all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods to watch and see what happens."

"I will indeed," said Doctor Rabbit, as he started off; "and thank you," he said, "for your bravery."

Gunston & The Book Bunnies
The Gunston Trust

OLD UNCLE OWL GIVES GOOD ADVICE

You remember how Doctor Rabbit asked Jack Rabbit to do a rather risky thing to drive Ki-yi Coyote out of the Big Green Woods. Well, the next morning after this, Friend Jack Rabbit was up a good while before daylight. To tell the truth, he had not slept very much during the night. No, sir; he just couldn't get to sleep because he kept thinking about that joke he and Doctor Rabbit were to play on wicked old Ki-yi Coyote.

Of course, it was not all fun, either. I should say not! You see, greedy Yappy would certainly gobble up Jack Rabbit if he could get him. But Jack Rabbit was not very much afraid, because he

had run away from Yappy a good many times before.

No, brave Jack Rabbit didn't stay awake because he was scared. I suppose he couldn't sleep for about the same reason that boys sometimes stay awake when the circus comes to town. And the boys used to get up before daylight to go and see the animals, and perhaps some of them do it yet.

Yes, Jack Rabbit was very, very curious. He wondered if Ki-yi Coyote would really hide in the Big Green Woods under the elm tree, as Doctor Rabbit had said he would.

So, about four in the morning, Jack Rabbit slipped away and went over to watch along the edge of the woods. He had not been there long when, yes, sir; Sure enough! There came Ki-yi Coyote sneaking along and looking all around to make sure, as he thought, that nobody saw him.

As slinky Ki-yi Coyote slipped along he came pretty close to Jack Rabbit, and then Jack Rabbit lay mighty still. Indeed he did! He hardly dared to breathe until Ki-yi Coyote had passed from sight beneath the big elm farther on in the

woods. Then Jack Rabbit just kicked up his heels and danced for joy. He wanted to laugh too, ever so much, but he didn't dare, because sharp-eared Ki-yi might hear him. No, Jack Rabbit ran clear back to his tree before he laughed, and then he laughed as loudly as he wanted to. "I can scarcely wait until nine o'clock comes," he said, after he had laughed again and danced another jig of joy.

Stubby Woodchuck had heard Doctor Rabbit talking with Yappy, and so as often as Stubby saw one of the little creatures of the Big Green Woods, he told him about it. It was not long before every one of them knew, and they wondered why kind Doctor Rabbit had told Yappy where to find Jack Rabbit. In fact, they really couldn't understand it at all, because Doctor Rabbit was so good and kind to everybody.

But when Uncle Owl heard about it, he looked very wise and said to a number of the little creatures of the Big Green Woods, "I'm sure you need not be troubled, my friends; for I think we shall find that this has something to do with getting Ki-yi Coyote away from the Big Green

Woods and the Wide Prairie. Bear in mind, I say I only suspect it does," and with another very wise look Uncle Owl walked back to his hole in the tree, and there stood looking toward the big elm where Ki-yi Coyote lay hiding and watching for Doctor Rabbit.

Then about a half hour before nine o'clock, busy Blue Jay flew all over the Big Green Woods and told all the little creatures of the woods to go as close as they dared to the big elm where Ki-yi Coyote lay, and then watch.

When some of them tried to have Blue Jay stop and talk, he said he didn't have time. He said he was in the biggest hurry he had ever known. "You watch! You watch!" he would cry back at them as he flew away to tell others.

Before long they were all either flying or creeping toward the big elm. They didn't know what Doctor Rabbit's plan was, of course, but they believed something mighty interesting was going to happen. When they were all hidden, some of them kept up such a whispering it seemed as if Ki-yi must surely hear. Each one said it wasn't he who whispered, until presently Uncle Owl called

out loudly from his tree, "Who?" Then they did keep still. Because there was Uncle Owl looking right at them.

YAPPY CHASES KI-YI COYOTE

All the little creatures of the Big Green Woods were looking toward the big elm where Ki-yi Coyote was hiding and were wondering what would happen.

Then all of a sudden they heard big-mouthed Yappy baying away out on the Wide Prairie. Pretty soon they heard another hound baying.

It was quite true that Jack Rabbit had been started up at last. He had waited at the tree, and it had seemed as though nine o'clock never would come. At last when he saw Yappy and his friend coming, he was really glad.

When they were pretty close, Jack Rabbit sprang up, put his long ears straight in the air, and away he went. You see, when he doesn't have to run very fast, he keeps his ears straight up in the air; but when he has to run as fast as he can—the

way he did when Speedy Grey Hound got after him—then he lays his long ears down flat to his head. And how he does run! He looks like a streak, he goes so fast.

Jack Rabbit was not much afraid of Yappy, because you see, Yappy was only a fox hound. Now a fox hound is dangerous enough at night, when he is on the trail of Ray Coon or O. Possum, but he can't do any harm in the daytime to swift Jack Rabbit on the Wide Prairie.

Big Yappy and his friend, the other fox hound, had been trained to trail, at night, nothing but Ray Coon and O. Possum and Tom Wildcat. But in the daytime they certainly did like to start up Jack Rabbit. Most of all, though, they liked to start up Ki-yi Coyote.

"There he goes!" shouted happy Yappy to his friend, as Jack Rabbit jumped up; and away they all went. And Jack Rabbit, of course, led them straight away for the Big Green Woods.

As they ran, Jack Rabbit kept thinking to himself, "I surely do hate to run so close to Ki-yi Coyote. Indeed, I do! Just suppose he should go after me as hard as ever he could." Then he would comfort

himself by thinking, "But then, he'll never do it with the two hounds chasing him. I'll be all right. Yes, I'll just keep going. My, but I wish I could kick old Ki-yi right on the nose as I go past him!"

But wise Jack Rabbit said to himself that as soon as he had started up Ki-yi Coyote, he would run right back to the Wide Prairie, where there was plenty of room, because he might need it.

While all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods were looking and wondering, Doctor Rabbit bounded into the woods from somewhere. In a jiffy he was in his tree, looking out from an upper window.

The two hounds were coming after Jack Rabbit as fast as they could, yelling terribly at each other, and saying that this time they certainly would catch him.

But Jack Rabbit was very wise. He ran a little slower until the two hounds were fearfully close, and all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods looking on were dreadfully scared for poor Jack Rabbit. In fact, Mother Chipmunk and Sophy Woodchuck began to weep, and wipe their eyes with the corners of their aprons, because

they said something had surely gone wrong with Jack Rabbit and this was the last of him. It would be terrible, they said; and how would Mrs. Jack Rabbit ever make a living for all that family of little rabbits out on the Wide Prairie?

The next minute Jack Rabbit ran straight for the big elm. He saw Ki-yi Coyote lying with his body close to the ground. Old Ki-yi Coyote had seen them coming, but he thought, of course, he would just watch and see Jack Rabbit and the hounds go by. Then suddenly, before he could realize it, Jack Rabbit leaped clear over startled Ki-yi. "Ki-yi! Ki-yi!" he shouted, "I've brought you some company. Here they are. Good day! I must be going!" And away went Jack Rabbit out of sight.

Well, Ki-yi Coyote was both surprised and angry. He was about the angriest he had ever been in his life. But what could he do? Well, he couldn't do a thing except tear out of the woods as hard as he could go. And then how all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods did laugh, even Mother Chipmunk and Sophy Woodchuck!

Now when Yappy and his friend saw Ki-yi Coyote jump up, they shouted for joy. "Woo! woo! woo!" shouted Yappy gaily to his friend. "Sly old Ki-yi! Woo, woo, woo! Here he is right under our noses! Now we'll see about him! Woo, woo, woo!" And away they went after Ki-yi Coyote. Ki-yi was so mad he could have bitten a nail if there had been one handy, but, mad or no mad, he had to run as hard as he could.

Now the little creatures of the Big Green Woods all hurried to the edge of the woods and looked on as Yappy and his friend started out across the Wide Prairie after Ki-yi Coyote.

KI-YI COYOTE'S STRANGE HIDING PLACE

How Ki-yi Coyote did run when he got out on the Wide Prairie! He thought he would run as fast as possible, and so get out of sight and hide from the two hounds. Sure enough, sly Ki-yi did this very thing. He ran so fast that pretty soon he passed from sight over a little hill, and it certainly looked as if he had escaped. Old Ki-yi thought he had, and as he hid in some tall grass, he chuckled to himself to think how easy it was to get away from his enemies. "I'll just wait and rest here," he said. "Ha, ha, ha! I'll get my rabbit for breakfast yet!"

But Ki-yi Coyote had no more than said that than here came Yappy and the other hound

right on his trail. And they kept coming right on and sniffing and smelling Ki-yi's tracks until they were so close that Ki-yi had to spring up and run again. Once more he ran fast and hid, but again he was trailed, and again he had to jump up and run.

They kept this up all morning, until Ki-yi Coyote was getting pretty tired. Then, a little later, he was so dreadfully tired that what do you suppose he did? No, he didn't stop to fight, although cowardly Ki-yi sometimes does do that. He thought about it, but after he had looked back he said to himself, "No, I won't stop to fight. I'm not quite able to tackle Yappy and that other big hound, too. I'm going to do something else. I'm going where I can rest."

And he did. He ran straight for Farmer Roe's corn crib and squeezed under it! The dirt was soft and cool under there, and tired Ki-yi stretched out and made himself very comfortable. Then Yappy and his friend ran up to the hole where Ki-yi Coyote had gone under the corn crib, and began barking for all they were worth; and presently Farmer Roe and his boy came out and looked under the corn crib. They were certainly surprised to see Ki-yi hidden under there, and they decided at once that they would try to catch him alive.

The two hounds kept on barking, and Farmer Roe and his boy went right to work fixing something outside; but Ki-yi did not know what they were doing, and he felt pretty safe.

All this time the little creatures of the Big Green Woods had looked on from the edge of the Wide Prairie. Blue Jay was in the very top of the big elm, and he called down every now and then to tell just what was happening.

When Ki-yi Coyote ran under the corn crib, Doctor Rabbit slipped up pretty close to Farmer Roe's house. He got a good hiding place in some weeds, where he could see all that happened.

After a while Farmer Roe and his boy got some kind of a box fixed, and this they placed over the hole into which Ki-yi Coyote had run. Then they took the two hounds away and locked them in the barn. Doctor Rabbit slipped back to the woods.

"They've got it all fixed to catch Ki-yi alive!" he told the other little creatures of the Big Green Woods.

"How do you know?" they asked in a chorus.

"I heard them say so; and now you just wait and see!" Doctor Rabbit said.

Then he slipped back again to hide in the weeds and watch.

Of course he had to be very careful, because Yappy might come tearing out into the weeds at any moment. But Doctor Rabbit's eyes are very sharp. He was sure he could see any danger if it came near, so he was not much afraid.

He ran straight for
Mr. Farmer's corn-crib

CATCHING KI-YI COYOTE

All afternoon Doctor Rabbit watched the strange box that Farmer Roe had placed at the hole where Ki-yi Coyote had gone under the corn crib, but nothing happened. Toward evening Doctor Rabbit came back to the little creatures waiting in the woods. He looked very wisely at them and said:

"My friends, nothing more has happened as yet, but I feel quite certain that Ki-yi Coyote will be caught. I'm pretty tired now and must have my supper. Just as soon as it is daylight, Jack Rabbit and I will slip over again and watch, and see what Farmer Roe and his boy do about that box."

At this all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods began talking at once.

Then they bade Doctor Rabbit good-night, and went back to their homes to await the news. The next morning they were all startled by hearing noisy Blue Jay shouting, "Come here! Come here, all of you! Doctor Rabbit told me to call you. Old Ki-yi is caught, and I can see him. I can see him!"

Well, you should have seen all those little creatures of the Big Green Woods tumbling out of their homes! Stubby Woodchuck came tearing out of his front door, and before he knew it, bumped into Cheepy Chipmunk, and knocked him over. They were both mad about it for a minute. Stubby got bumped on the ear and Cheepy got a bump on the nose, but in the excitement they forgot their anger and hurried to the edge of the Wide Prairie, where all the other little creatures of the Big Green Woods seemed to be gathering.

Chatty Red Squirrel came out of his house so fast he ran square into Frisky Grey Squirrel, and then Neighbor Grey was provoked. He said he never did know a Red Squirrel that had any manners; but Chatty Red Squirrel kept right on running, and so Frisky Grey Squirrel forgot his crossness and ran too, as fast as he could, with

the other excited little creatures of the Big Green Woods.

In almost no time they all had reached the edge of the woods. Then they all looked toward Farmer Roe's house and the strange box.

THE LITTLE CREATURES OF THE WOODS ARE HAPPY AGAIN

When the little creatures of the Big Green Woods looked toward Farmer Roe's house, they saw Doctor Rabbit behind a fence post, watching.

Yes, it was true: Ki-yi Coyote was in that box! They knew it because several times they heard Farmer Roe's boy say, "We got him! I was sure he would come out in the night!"

Then the little creatures of the Big Green Woods wondered what Farmer Roe was doing. He went into the barn several times and brought out some boards, a hammer, and a saw. First he sawed the boards, and then he hammered and nailed ever so long.

After a while all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods could see what Farmer Roe was doing. He was making a kind of wood and wire cage for Ki-yi Coyote. When it was all ready, Farmer Roe and his son put the cage against the box that Ki-yi Coyote was in. Then Farmer Roe's boy poked Ki-yi with a long stick and drove him into the cage. Then as the farmer and his boy stood looking at dusty Ki-yi in the cage, they talked for quite a long time; but the little creatures of the Big Green Woods could not hear what was said. At last Farmer Roe and his boy went into the house. Then wise Doctor Rabbit came running back to the woods and said it was mighty fine the way things were turning out.

"They are going to load Ki-yi Coyote into a wagon, take him to the city, and sell him to the men who have charge of a big park there," said Doctor Rabbit excitedly.

"That's fine! Splendid!" shouted all the little creatures of the Big Green Woods. "Hurrah for Doctor Rabbit and his scheme for getting rid of Ki-yi Coyote!"

"And now," shouted Cheepy Chipmunk, mounting a stump and speaking so that all could hear, "I want you all to come right down to my house for dinner. Mother Chipmunk wants all of you!"

"Fine!" shouted Jimmy Chipmunk. "I'll get something good to eat, because company's coming!" His mother frowned at him, but no one thought anything about what Jimmy had said, they were so delighted to get the invitation; because Mother Chipmunk was about the best cook in the whole woods.

Then away they all went toward Cheepy Chipmunk's house, talking and laughing and shouting. And Billy Rabbit and Jimmy Chipmunk and Johnny Woodchuck kicked up their heels and ran after each other all the way, they were so happy.

It was a fine thing, they all said, to be going to such a good dinner, and to know that Ki-yi Coyote would not trouble them any more. They declared that they had never been so happy in all their lives before. THE END

Gunston Classics

The Greenwood Series

THOMAS C. HINKLE

1876-1949
USA

Doctor Rabbit And Ki-yi Coyote, (1918)

Doctor Rabbit And Tom Wildcat, (1918)

Doctor Rabbit And Brushtail The Fox, (1919)

Doctor Rabbit And Grumpy Bear, (1919)

Doctor Rabbit and Slinky the Wolf (1920)

Doctor Rabbit and Old Bill Horned Owl (1920)

Tiny Cottontail, the Story of a Wee Rabbit (1921)

Snowy Tail a Champion Jack Rabbit (1921)

Waddy Rabbit - A Little Cottontail Who Forgot (1922)

Nonviolence in Children's Literature
The Gunston Trust